Boy Swimming in Lake Drowns

Gerald Wiliford, 8 years old, 59 Davis Boulevard, Jefferson parish, was drowned Sunday about 5:15 p.m. as he was swimming in Lake Pontchartrain between Bayou St. John and the London avenue canal, 10th Precinct police reported.

Patrolmen Adolph Mayerhofer and Benson Walker, who investigated, said the boy was accompanied to the lakefront by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Willford, and after going into the lake to swim disappeared beneath the surface about 40 yards from the seawall.

Coast Guardsmen were summoned to the scene and the body was recovered by them about 6 p. m., police said. Efforts to revive the boy failed and he was pronounced dead by Charity Hospital ambulance doctors.

Charles Cordes, 45, 2725 Decatur street, driver of a mortuarywagon from the coroner's office which was sent out to pick up the body, was injured when the vehicle overturned at Franklin avenue and Vienna street.

Cordes said that he was proceeding out Franklin avenue when an automobile in front of him made a sudden turn, causing him to swerve his-vehicle sharply. He said that in order to avoid striking some people on the sidewalk, he swerved toward the opposite side of the street, struck the curbing and overturned. He was thrown out of the vehicle as it struck the curbing and a rear wheel ran over him. He was taken in an ambulance to Charity Hospital where he was treated for brush burns of the face and arms and possible internal injuries.